

"To care for him who has borne the battle, and for his widow and orphans."

## The National Tribune.

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### NOTICE.

When you send in your subscription  
always state whether renewal or new  
subscriber.

When you renew from another post  
office give former address as well.  
When change of address is desired be  
sure to give former address.

The Hague Peace Conference cost  
\$3,000,000, and its results figure up like  
many bankrupt's assets—nothing.

Ex-President Cleveland believes that  
Speaker Cannon will be the Republican  
candidate for President.

The British warships are now to have  
their magazines cooled by refrigerating  
machinery, which it is expected will  
greatly increase their safety.

The question has been raised in New  
York whether jurors should be allowed  
to take notes. The officers interfered  
in a recent case, and stopped the jurors  
taking notes, and this seems to be a  
rule of the court, but it is one that has  
no basis in good sense.

Hearstism is making crablike progress  
in Massachusetts. In Boston the  
Independence League candidates polled  
only 83 votes, against 11,000 for the  
Republicans and 34,999 for the Demo-  
cratic candidates. In the other towns  
it was about the same.

James Wardell, of New York, who  
assisted his wife to commit suicide, has  
been sentenced to 20 years' imprison-  
ment for manslaughter. This is the  
first instance of a conviction for the  
crime of aiding a suicide. A letter was  
produced on the trial showing that  
Wardell and his wife had agreed to die  
together.

What strikes one as a safe and sane  
procedure is a conference of the Gov-  
ernors and other officers of the South-  
ern States to agree upon a more mod-  
erate policy toward the railroads. The  
railroad managers will be invited to the  
conference, and it is likely that a fair  
compromise will be agreed upon which  
will give the people lower rates of fare  
and yet be just to the railroads. Ala-  
bama has made a compromise on a two  
and three-fourths cent rate, which is an  
indication of what the others will prob-  
ably do.

We get some hint of what will be  
forthcoming when traveling will be  
largely transferred from the streets and  
roads to the upper air by the following  
advertisement appearing in a German  
paper: "Can anyone favor me with the  
names of the balloonists who, when  
passing over the village of Ried last  
Thursday evening, dropped a bag of  
ballast down my chimney and com-  
pletely ruined a fruit tart which I was  
cooking?"—Julia Schmidt, 14, Brizla-  
gasse, Ried."

Of all the ships that have sailed the  
seas none have been more picturesque  
or more associated with romance than  
the galleons of old Spain. The story of  
their early voyages, of the immense  
treasures they carried back from the  
New World, and the constant dangers  
they endured from predatory adventur-  
ers from all over the world, is told for  
the first time in the November Scribner,  
is John C. Fitzpatrick's article on "The  
Spanish Galleon and Pieces of Eight."  
The illustrations by Frank Brangwyn  
include four superb paintings reproduced  
in full color.

It is said that the trouble with Por-  
tugal is that every family of any stand-  
ing makes one by a priest and sends  
the other to Brazil, with the oldest  
keeping the homestead. The priest-  
hood, like all those in the older and  
less enlightened parts of Europe, are  
desperately avaricious, and annoy the  
people greatly with their greedy exactions.  
The son that goes to Brazil, on the  
other hand, becomes rich raising  
coffee or at some other pursuit, and  
comes back to upset the old order of  
things in Portugal with his radical new  
world ideas. The priesthood want to  
keep Portugal going ahead in the same  
old dreary rut, while the returned Bra-  
zilians are the new wine put into old  
bottles which strains the ancient leath-  
er to bursting.

Minnesota has a States Rights case  
of her own. It is not unlike that of  
North Carolina. Judge Lochren, whom  
we all remember as Commissioner of  
Pensions, issued an injunction against  
the execution of the commodity rates  
law passed by the Minnesota Legisla-  
ture, and directed it against Mr. Young,  
the Attorney-General of the State.  
Young paid no attention to the restrain-  
ing order, but went ahead executing the  
law, when Lochren had him brought  
into court and fined him \$100 for con-  
tempt of court, committing him to the  
custody of the United States Marshal.  
A habeas corpus case has been brought  
before the Supreme Court of the United  
States for the release of Young on the  
ground that the matter is virtually a  
suit against the State, which is prohib-  
ited by the Constitution.

### HAVE CONFIDENCE.

It is egregiously absurd for people  
to get into a panic because the mob  
of New York speculators have over-  
reached themselves and gone down with  
a crash.

Every man of sense knows that the  
country was never more solidly pros-  
perous. A panic in the midst of this  
is as absurd as a prairie fire in a wet  
season.

The crops are abundant, prices are  
good, work and wages abound for every  
man, our money is sound, and all that  
is needed is for the people to believe  
these things, and to go ahead with rea-  
sonable faith and confidence.

### THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE'S REPO- SITORY.

There is so much pressure upon our  
columns by most admirable articles that  
should be published that we have de-  
cided to issue monthly or more often  
a Repository, in which we will put  
many of the best articles sent us, and  
which we think are of such value that  
they should be printed in a form suitable  
for permanent preservation. The Re-  
pository will be a handsome pamphlet  
printed on fine paper in large type, and  
its contents will be of the highest class.  
The first issue of this is now on the  
press and will appear at once. It will  
contain:

"The Army's Powerful Ally: Was the  
Navy an Important Factor in the Sup-  
pression of the Rebellion?" By Lieut.  
Tom L. Johnson, of the U. S. N., 1861-5,  
and Paymaster, Missouri Naval Reserve,  
St. Louis, Mo.

"Fifteen Months in Prison: Experi-  
ence in Pemberton, Belle Isle and An-  
dersonville." By James M. Emery, Bat-  
tery A, 3d Pa. H. A., Chicago, Ill.

"Miller's Brigade at Stone River." By  
J. M. Farbour, Co. H, 21st Ohio, De-  
troit, Mich.

"Fired With Vicissitudes: the Ups  
and Downs in the History of the 53d  
Ohio from Shiloh to the Grand Review." By  
Frank M. Lewis, Captain, 53d Ohio,  
and A. G. Second Brigade, Second  
Division, Fifteenth Corps.

"Early's Raid on Washington; a Leaf  
From History." By Henry A. Castle,  
Minneapolis, Minn.

"The Regiment That Put Down the  
Rebellion." By A. J. Ward, 4th Mich.  
Cav.

There will be other shorter but not  
less important articles to fill up the  
measure of 64 pages. The price of the  
Repository will be 15 cents. Address  
all orders to The National Tribune,  
Washington, D. C.

### MR. FAIRBANKS'S CASE.

The reaction has come in the case of  
Vice President Fairbanks, and a great  
many men and newspapers are saying  
that they feel that he has been made  
the victim of unjust action. Senator  
Culberson, of Texas, says:

"Vice President Fairbanks is being  
unjustly criticized for that cocktail af-  
fair. The impression which certain peo-  
ple are trying to create that Mr. Fair-  
banks is less temperate in his habits is  
contemptible. I know the Vice Presi-  
dent, and I can say that, unlike certain  
members of the Administration, he ob-  
serves all the rules laid down for the  
guidance of men by some of the people  
who are censuring him. There are peo-  
ple in public life whose names are fa-  
miliar who are open to the criticism  
which has with no warrant been directed  
at the Vice President. It is doubtful  
whether the cause of temperance is ad-  
vanced by the methods which have been  
used with regard to Mr. Fairbanks."

The Houston Post is a Democratic  
paper, and not fighting Mr. Fairbanks's  
battles, but it says:

"Personally he is a clean, sincere, up-  
right, dignified Christian gentleman and  
abstemious in every respect. No man  
in public life is less subject to criticism  
than when it comes to a question of  
abstemious living, and if the cocktail  
incident were one that really merited  
any explanation from him, we have no  
doubt it would be found that he knew  
nothing of the presence of the cocktail  
until he went to the table."

The Methodist press is not at all  
pleased with the way that Mr. Fair-  
banks has been treated. The Western  
Christian Advocate, of Cincinnati, says:

"It is unfortunately true that when  
a man, however high in principles and  
conduct, is embarked here in America  
in politics, he must expect all sorts of  
newspaper attacks, however unscrupu-  
lous and damaging. His opponents will  
argue that all is fair in war or politics,  
and he as chaste as ice, as pure as  
snow, he shall not escape calumny.  
The true, 'his pity and pity 'his true'.  
But a noble and fair-minded man  
who has stood by his church ought  
not to find the friendship of that church  
fall him in the hour when he is put  
before the world as a hypocrite or a  
merely nominal Christian."

The Northwestern Christian Advo-  
cate, of Chicago, says:

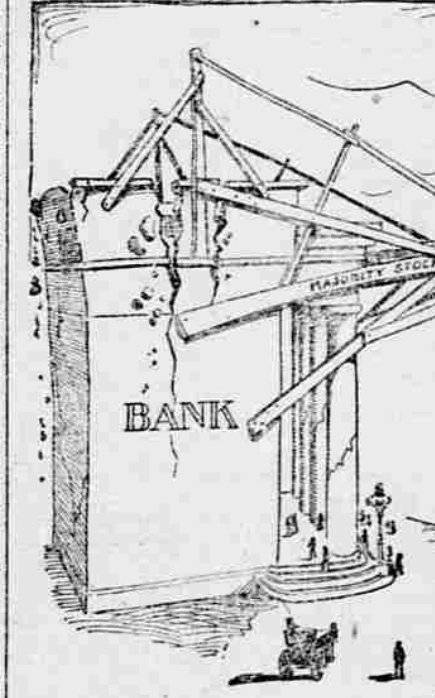
"It is greatly to be regretted that  
party prejudice and consideration of  
some of our ardent prohibitionists, un-  
der inspiration of some State workers,  
not members of our Church, combined  
with a few personal enemies, to make  
of Mr. Fairbanks a candidate for Gen-  
eral Conference, were supposed to be jeopardized  
by the Vice President, made them ut-  
terly indifferent to the larger interests  
of the Church, in being represented by  
a clean, capable, Christian man, and  
withal the Vice President of the Nation.  
To this end a persistent personal  
campaign was made of the delegates.  
The action of the conference  
thus obtained was greatly regretted by  
the Presiding Bishop, the official visit-  
ers of the conference and most of our  
ministers."

All this is rather wide of the point.  
No one has ever charged that Mr. Fair-  
banks's public and private character  
was not immaculate. No man in pub-  
lic or private life is cleaner than he.  
Mr. Fairbanks is rather negatively  
than actively good, and the only reason  
that any man could have for preferring  
him to another candidate of equal abili-  
ty and high character was that he rep-  
resented that great army which marches  
under the banners of the Methodist  
Episcopal Church, and would receive its  
support. When this was withdrawn  
from him it practically finished his as-  
pirations. He is lacking in personal  
magnetism, and is not sufficiently im-  
magnated with any great principle or move-  
ment to make good the loss from the  
defection of the Methodists. The cock-  
tail incident was in a way a tragedy  
and an injustice, but it was politics, and  
the men who most severely condemn  
him for having cocktails served were  
very largely men who put on themselves  
no restraint in the use of cocktails or  
other beverages. They simply found  
this flaw in his armor and made the  
most of it, precisely as would be done  
in a race on land or water. Anything  
that will throw one of the contestants  
out is made use of to get rid of his com-  
petition.

### THE STOCK CATASTROPHE.

There is a strong similarity between  
the Quebec bridge disaster, by which 90  
men were drowned, and some million  
dollars' worth of property was lost, and  
the methods by which the financial cata-  
clysm in New York was brought about,  
with a loss of uncounted millions to in-  
vestors and others. In the Quebec bridge  
the steel construction had been pushed  
out over the river until the weight over-  
came the strength, and the vast network  
of trusses and braces sank to the bottom  
of the river, a tangled mass of metal,  
carrying down with it 90 unfortunate  
workmen.

The Heinze, Thomases, et al. have  
been similarly projecting finances into  
space until the weight overpowered the  
strength and brought ruin. Their method  
was to secure the control of the stock of  
one bank, which was not difficult to do,  
inasmuch as one share alone half gave



HUMPTY-DUMPTY FINANCIERING.

them all the power they desired to do  
what they pleased with the bank and  
its money. They then used this money  
to buy 51 shares in another bank, which  
they put through the same operation to buy  
still a third bank, and so on until the  
crash came.

To any even medium-sized Napoleon  
of finance the process seemed singularly  
easy and certain of success. Owing to  
our defective business law the holder of  
51 shares in 100 of stock gets entire  
control of the property, and is practi-  
cally free to do with it as he wishes.  
Stock certificates in most institutions  
are put about with entirely too little re-  
gard to their amount and their relation  
to the capital invested. We are constantly  
hearing of institutions which have been  
prudently and successfully managed  
by the men who have built them up,  
only to lose control of them at some  
important time by finding the stock  
which they have distributed too care-  
lessly has been quietly picked up by  
some schemer, who, armed with the re-  
quisite 51 per cent, has turned out the  
men who have spent their lives in de-  
veloping the institution, and proceeded  
sometimes to make ducks and drakes  
not only of its money, but of its charac-  
ter and standing.

It is the same way in which Harriman  
has built himself up to be a great rail-  
road magnate. By some means or an-  
other he would get control of a bare  
majority of the stock of a railroad, and  
then take its resources, as in the case  
of the Chicago & Alton, depleting its



HUMPTY-DUMPTY GETS A FALL.

coffers of the cash accumulated for bet-  
terments, to use the same in purchasing  
a bare majority of the stock of another  
railroad, and repeating the operation in-  
definitely.

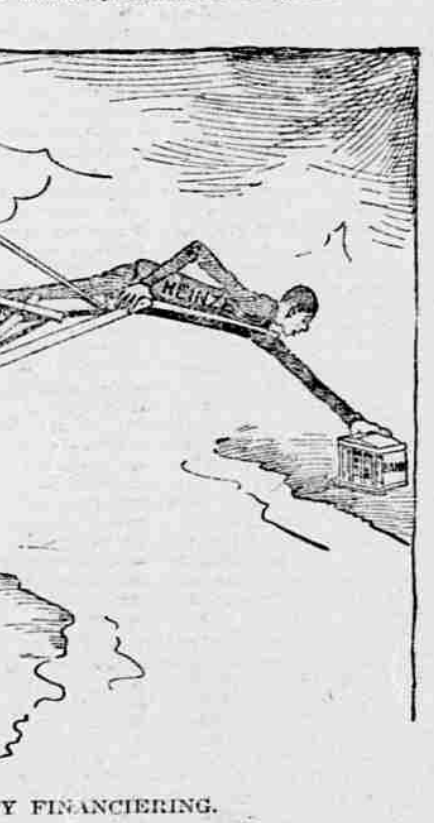
As long as our laws permit this sort  
of thing it is certain to be practiced by  
ambitious and unscrupulous men, and it  
is equally certain to result in great dis-  
aster. The whole trouble centers around  
the defectiveness of our laws in giving  
such unlimited power to the holder  
of a bare majority of stock.  
Within certain wide limits he does  
not have to regard the interests of  
the men who own 49 shares of  
stock, and who may really be the  
owners of more than one-half of the  
property. This was possibly a necessary  
condition in the earlier development of  
our corporations when their value was  
largely speculative, but it is manifestly  
unjust and dangerous when these cor-  
porations have assumed a more tangible  
and permanent form. It is absolutely  
different in European countries, where  
the laws are carefully safeguarded the  
rights of the minority stockholders as  
they do of the majority owners, and  
such performances as that which precipi-  
tated the crisis in New York would be  
impossible in England, France or  
Germany. There such operations as  
those of Harriman, Heinze, Thomas et  
al. are distinctly criminal, and the men  
who perpetrated them would speedily  
find themselves behind the bars, without  
hope of executive clemency. The result  
will undoubtedly be an improvement in  
our corporation laws which will prevent  
such practices in the future. The crisis  
calls attention to this grave defect, the  
evils of which have never before been  
so fully apparent, and much-needed  
legislation will now follow. First and

even more binding than legislation will  
be the adoption of rules in business cir-  
cles to prevent the repetition of such  
misfeasance.

### MAYOR TOM JOHNSON.

The following letter from a valued  
veteran correspondent in Cleveland, O.,  
gives quite a different view of Mayor  
Tom Johnson than that which has been  
spread abroad by the newspapers:

Editor National Tribune: I am a  
constant reader of your valuable pa-  
per, greatly enjoying the articles writ-  
ten upon the campaigns, battles, con-  
duct of the war and in the description  
and make-up of the officers and men  
who composed the armies. But in your  
issue of Sept. 19, 1907, there is a state-  
ment under a political heading which  
I do not like, especially the closing sen-  
tences. It reads: "Tom Johnson has  
made a fairly good Mayor of Cleveland  
during his three terms of office, and it  
is not made plain why there should be  
such a tremendous onrush of Republicans  
or National prominence to prevent Mr.  
Johnson securing a re-election." The  
above quotation is altogether mislead-



ing. No doubt our municipal troubles  
look different to people who view them  
from a distance. If you would visit  
Cleveland and hear the people talk who  
are not officeholders you would surely  
find out "why." The people who pay  
taxes in Cleveland do not think Tom  
Johnson has made a fairly good Mayor.  
It is not a truthful statement. A ma-  
jority of all the people in Cleveland  
think it was unnecessary for him to  
urge the raising of the tax rate from 30  
to 2.87 and at the same time run the  
city in debt to the extent of \$12,000,000,  
expending large sums of money in ex-  
pelling foolish, new and untried theo-  
retics, some of them relating to criminals  
and paupers and belonging to the juris-  
diction of the courts. The majority of  
the people think Johnson is wrong in  
establishing new boards of Commis-  
sioners, the members of which have not  
whenever to do, except to draw their  
salaries \$5 per day. It is wrong to  
increase the officers in the different  
official departments where it is un-  
necessary, for he has used his time  
and influence as Mayor, with the as-  
sistance of the police and the whole  
power of the city Government, in back-  
ing financially and pushing forward a  
private railroad enterprise, promising  
a short ride for three cents as against  
a splendid street railroad system, wisely  
and carefully operated, with a ride of  
19 miles for three and a half cents and  
double transfers. The people do not  
want his system—known as the New  
York Tammany organization, intro-  
duced for the purpose of carrying elec-  
tions in the interest of officeholders—  
nor his tricky, faked methods of run-  
ning the city Government. They, the  
people, want a man who will spend  
more than 20 days during the year in  
the interests of the city Government,  
at a salary of \$5,000 per year. They do  
not believe he can do anything for  
the welfare of Cleveland.

In regard to Mr. Burton, he is  
not the Southern gentleman greatly  
surpassed the Northern man in his cul-  
tivation and his inbred, unfeeling sense  
of what constituted a gentleman and  
what he should do under all circum-  
stances. Gov. Vardaman, of Missis-  
sippi, has been devoting his energies since  
he came into public notice to demon-  
strating the fallaciousness of this idea  
of Southern manliness. His latest boorish  
act was something incomprehensible in  
any man who claims knowledge of the  
courtesies and decencies of life. When  
President Roosevelt went to Missis-  
sippi, Vardaman, the Governor of that  
State, absented himself to Memphis to  
avoid being in the State when the Presi-  
dent was there. This was so absurdly  
wrong that words fail to properly charac-  
terize it. No matter what Vardaman  
may think of Theodore Roosevelt per-  
sonally, and it is really of no conse-  
quence what Vardaman thinks of any-  
thing, he was still the Governor—al-  
most of a great State, one  
of the constituent parts of the mighty  
Commonwealth of which Theodore  
Roosevelt is the official head. Ordinary  
loyalty and public duty demand the  
Governor of Mississippi to meet the  
President of the United States and ex-  
tend to him every courtesy. On such  
an occasion the personalities of Theo-  
dore Roosevelt and James K. Varda-  
man are absolutely sunk in their official  
capacity. One is the head, direct rep-  
resentative and spokesman for the 37,  
000,000 Americans of the United States;  
the other occupies a similar position  
for the 1,750,000 people who live in  
Mississippi. The private feelings of  
each toward the other have no more  
connection with the matter than their  
private feelings toward a man whose  
death warrant they are called upon to  
sign. Gov. Vardaman in declining to  
meet the President showed as little  
sense of his public duty as he did of  
the common decencies of life. The peo-  
ple of Mississippi showed their opinion  
of their misrepresentative Governor by  
the magnificent reception they gave the  
President at Vicksburg and elsewhere.  
The Southern papers all condemn Varda-  
man, which they could hardly help  
doing with their ideals of what a South-  
ern gentleman should be. The Atlanta  
Constitution says:

"As President Roosevelt came into  
Mississippi, Vardaman, the Governor—  
God save the mark—went out, going to  
Memphis to avoid being in Mississippi  
while Roosevelt was there. It was the  
act of a boor and a political charlatan,  
and Mississippi did not hesitate to re-  
sent it by making in behalf of Roose-  
velt the most remarkable demonstration  
accorded any visiting public man in  
many a year."

The late Mohonk Conference made  
the question of the retention of the  
Philippines the special subject for dis-  
cussion at its annual meeting last week,  
and after extended review of the whole  
situation decided almost unanimously  
that it was the duty of the Government  
to retain possession of the Archipelago.

The lines of bank presidents seem  
running harder and harder. When the  
courts are not after them their own  
stockholders are likely to be.

When sky-sailing becomes common,  
will there have to be brigades of White  
Wings to clear away the clouds and  
open up the snow drifts?

### THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION.

Once again the season of the year has come when, in accordance with  
the custom of our forefathers for generations past, the President appoints a  
day for the special occasion for all our people to give praise and thanksgiving  
to God.

During the past year we have been free from famine, from pestilence,  
from war. We are at peace with all the rest of mankind. Our natural re-  
sources are at least as great as those of any other Nation. We believe that  
in ability to resist the elements of disaster and take advantage of the average man  
of this Nation stands at least as high as the average man of any other. No-  
where else in the world is there such an opportunity for a free people to de-  
velop to the fullest extent all its powers of body, of mind, and of that which  
stands above both body and mind—character.

Much has been given us from on high, and much will rightly be expected  
of us in return. Into our care the 10 talents have been intrusted; and we are  
to be pardoned neither if we squander and waste them, nor yet if we hide them  
in a napkin, for they must be fruitful in our hands. Ever through the ages, at  
all times and among all peoples, prosperity has been fraught with danger,  
and it behooves us to beseech the Giver of All Things that we may not fall  
into love of ease and of luxury; that we may not lose our sense of moral re-  
sponsibility; that we may not forget our duty to God and to our neighbor.

A great democracy like ours, a democracy based upon the principles of  
orderly liberty, can be perpetuated only if in the heart of the ordinary citizen  
there dwells a keen sense of righteousness and justice. We should earnestly  
pray that this spirit of righteousness and justice may grow ever greater in the  
hearts of all of us, and that our souls may be inclined ever more both toward  
the duties that tell for gentleness and forbearance, for loving kindness and dis-  
bearance one with another, and toward those no less necessary virtues that  
make our manliness and rugged hardihood, for without these qualities neither  
Nation nor individual can rise to the level of greatness.

Now, therefore, I, Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States, do  
set apart Thursday, the 28th day of November, as the day for the general thank-  
giving and prayer, and on that day I recommend that the people shall cease  
from their daily work, and in their homes or in their churches, meet devoutly  
to thank the Almighty for the many and great blessings they have received  
in the past, and to pray that they may be given the strength so to order their  
lives as to deserve continuation of these blessings in the future.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of  
the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington this 25th day of October, in the year of our  
Lord one thousand nine hundred and seven, and of the Independence of the  
United States the one hundred and thirty-second.

By the President:  
ELIHU ROOT, Secretary of State.

guards against disease. While the mu-  
nicipal administration has steadily de-  
creased in efficiency, the city debt has  
been increased at the rate of \$2,000,000  
a year, until now it is \$12,000,000, which  
is close to the statutory limitation, the  
Treasury is empty, the tax rates have  
been much increased, while the city's  
credit is impaired and the enforcement  
of the law has alarmingly deteriorated.  
The people challenge Johnson to show  
a single department of the Municipal  
Government that has even fairly good  
management or has done anything to  
commend itself to the people. The pa-  
pers say with more force than elegance  
that Johnson has been now for six years  
playing the people of Cleveland for  
suckers, and will continue to do so as  
long as they permit themselves to be  
gulled by his specious fanfarronade.

### DEATH OF PAST COMMANDER LOV- ELL.

Maj. Don G. Lovell dropped dead of  
heart disease at Tacoma, Wash., Oct.  
25, while attending a board meeting at  
the First Church of Christian Scientists.  
He was Past Commander of the Depart-  
ment of Washington and Alaska, G. A.  
R., and a prominent member of the  
Loyal Legion. He was born in Iowa,  
Mich., and entered the service in 1861  
as Corporal of Co. A, 34 Mich.; was  
promoted to Second Lieutenant, 6th  
Mich. Cav.; was wounded at Trevilian  
Station; promoted to Captain and then  
Major, and finally discharged Nov. 24,  
1865. After the war he served on the  
plains with Custer.

### GOV. VARDAMAN, THE BOOR.

It was long the boast of the South  
that the Southern gentleman greatly  
surpassed the Northern man in his cul-  
tivation and his inbred, unfeeling sense  
of what constituted a gentleman and  
what he should do under all circum-  
stances. Gov. Vardaman, of Missis-  
sippi, has been devoting his energies since  
he came into public notice to demon-  
strating the fallaciousness of this idea  
of Southern manliness. His latest boorish  
act was something incomprehensible in  
any man who claims knowledge of the  
courtesies and decencies of life. When  
President Roosevelt went to Missis-  
sippi, Vardaman, the Governor of that  
State, absented himself to Memphis to  
avoid being in the State when the Presi-  
dent was there. This was so absurdly  
wrong that words fail to properly charac-  
terize it. No matter what Vardaman  
may think of Theodore Roosevelt per-  
sonally, and it is really of no conse-  
quence what Vardaman thinks of any-  
thing, he was still the Governor—al-  
most of a great State, one  
of the constituent parts of the mighty  
Commonwealth of which Theodore  
Roosevelt is the official head. Ordinary  
loyalty and public duty demand the  
Governor of Mississippi to meet the  
President of the United States and ex-  
tend to him every courtesy. On such  
an occasion the personalities of Theo-  
dore Roosevelt and James K. Varda-  
man are absolutely sunk in their official  
capacity. One is the head, direct rep-  
resentative and spokesman for the 37,  
000,000 Americans of the United States;  
the other occupies a similar position  
for the 1,750,000 people who live in  
Mississippi. The private feelings of  
each toward the other have no more  
connection with the matter than their  
private feelings toward a man whose  
death warrant they are called upon to  
sign. Gov. Vardaman in declining to  
meet the President showed as little  
sense of his public duty as he did of  
the common decencies of life. The peo-  
ple of Mississippi showed their opinion  
of their misrepresentative Governor by  
the magnificent reception they gave the  
President at Vicksburg and elsewhere.  
The Southern papers all condemn Varda-  
man, which they could hardly help  
doing with their ideals of what a South-  
ern gentleman should be. The Atlanta  
Constitution says:

"As President Roosevelt came into  
Mississippi, Vardaman, the Governor—  
God save the mark—went out, going to  
Memphis to avoid being in Mississippi  
while Roosevelt was there. It was the  
act of a boor and a political charlatan,  
and Mississippi did not hesitate to re-  
sent it by making in behalf of Roose-  
velt the most remarkable demonstration  
accorded any visiting public man in  
many a year."

The late Mohonk Conference made  
the question of the retention of the  
Philippines the special subject for dis-  
cussion at its annual meeting last week,  
and after extended review of the whole  
situation decided almost unanimously  
that it was the duty of the Government  
to retain possession of the Archipelago.

The lines of bank presidents seem  
running harder and harder. When the  
courts are not after them their own  
stockholders are likely to be.

When sky-sailing becomes common,  
will there have to be brigades of White  
Wings to clear away the clouds and  
open up the snow drifts?

The Department of Agriculture be-  
lieves that it is found in Cassava the  
best of alcohol-producing plants and a  
cheaper source of spirits than the po-  
tato of Germany. A ton of Cassava,  
which grows abundantly in Florida and  
along the Gulf Coast, will produce 35  
gallons of alcohol and 10 tons of the  
roots can be raised to the acre. At 35  
cents to 40 cents a gallon the gross  
profit would be from \$35 to \$40 an acre.  
But still this does not seem to us as  
cheap a source of alcohol as corn grown  
in the West.

### NO MORE "GERMAN TALERS."

Everything in this world changes, and  
the latest change is that the dollar is  
no more in the home of its birth. The  
taler, as the Germans spell it, has ceased  
to be a German coin since the first of  
this month, after having been in use  
over 400 years—to be exact, since 1454.  
The German word for valley is "thal,"  
and originally a dollar was a piece  
coined in the little town of Hall, in  
Tyrol, from the silver mine there. Some  
writers say that it was first coined by  
the Counts of Schlick in Joachimsthal,  
Bohemia, from which it got the name  
Joachimsthaler. The pieces were of  
fine silver and exactly regular as to  
weight, so that they gained a high es-  
teem in that day, when the coins were  
so frequently adulterated by the rulers  
when they wanted to inflate the cur-  
rency. The name was shortened to  
thaler, and then the Germans dropped  
the "h" out of the word as unnecessary.  
The Dutch began using the coin as a  
unit and spelled it "daler," from which  
we derive our name. The next to take  
it up were the Spaniards in coining the  
silver of which they plundered the New  
World. These dollars were also of great  
uniformity in weight and fineness, and  
became the standard in the commercial  
world, and in order to prevent "clip-  
ping," which unscrupulous brokers of-  
ten resorted to—that is, the cutting  
away of part of the piece—the edges  
were milled—that is, had little ridges  
put on them. When we established our  
system of currency we based it on the  
money that was best known to us, and  
the knowledge of which we had gained  
by our trade with the West Indies and  
the Spanish possessions. The act of  
1792 based our currency upon the Span-  
ish "milled dollar," weighing 416 grains  
and .8924 fine. We soon found that we  
were putting too much silver into our  
dollar, and in 1837 reduced its weight  
to 412 1/2 grains, .900 fine, which stand-  
ard still remains.

The Mexicans retained the former  
standard of 416 grains of somewhat less  
fineness, and the Mexican dollar ob-  
tained a vogue in the East, especially in  
China, which it retains to this day in  
spite of all efforts to displace it. The  
British, Japanese and the United States  
have tried hard to substitute another  
dollar for it, and one of these attempts  
was made by us in ordering the coinage  
of trade dollars, weighing 420 grains.  
This experiment failed, as the British  
and others had, leaving the Mexican  
dollar still the favorite in the Chinese  
trade. It was at one time proposed,  
and came near being adopted by Con-  
gress, to pay the Mexican Government  
four cents on every dollar coined for  
the privilege of using the eagle on a  
cactus plant, which is the decoration of  
the Mexican dollar.

The German taler was never the equal  
of the American or Spanish dollar in  
value, and during the past century  
ranged at about 66 cents. When Ger-  
many became a Nation in 1870 the unit  
was made